(b) if so, the action taken by railway authorities towards this cause and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests/proposals received from various sources are examined and suitable action as found justified and feasible is taken keeping in view the operational constraints, commercial viability and availability of resources.

In 2008-09, approximately forty four coaches have been added in the regular trains, frequency of four pairs of trains have been increased and seventeen pairs of new trains have been introduced serving the State of Gujarat. In the Railway Budget 2009-10, eight new trains, increase in frequency of two trains and extension of three trains have been proposed.

Departure time of Kerala bound trains

2398. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all Kerala bound trains from Delhi are departing during morning/day time only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the proposed new non-stop train would be scheduled for a departure in the evening; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The departure timings are based on operational and terminals constraints.

(c) and (d) Scheduling of trains is done taking into account various factors including terminal and operational constraints, path availability, traffic demands, etc.

Railway projects in North Eastern States

2399. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount spent on various railway projects in the State of Assam and other North-Eastern States in comparison to other States of the country for the last five years;

(b) the number of projects in the State of Assam and other NE States which have been completed or under construction in the last five years; and

(c) the target set for completion of existing under construction and sanctioned projects alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The State-wise details of amount spent are not maintained.